

How Does Transportation Planning Work?

Understanding the System

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Ideas + Action
for a Better City



SPUR's mission is to promote good planning and good government through research, education and advocacy.



Outline

- I. Bay Area Transportation Snapshot
- II. Why we care about transit (and the “gentle modes”)
- III. What makes transit work
- IV. An equitable transportation system
- V. How we fund transportation

I. Bay Area Transportation Snapshot



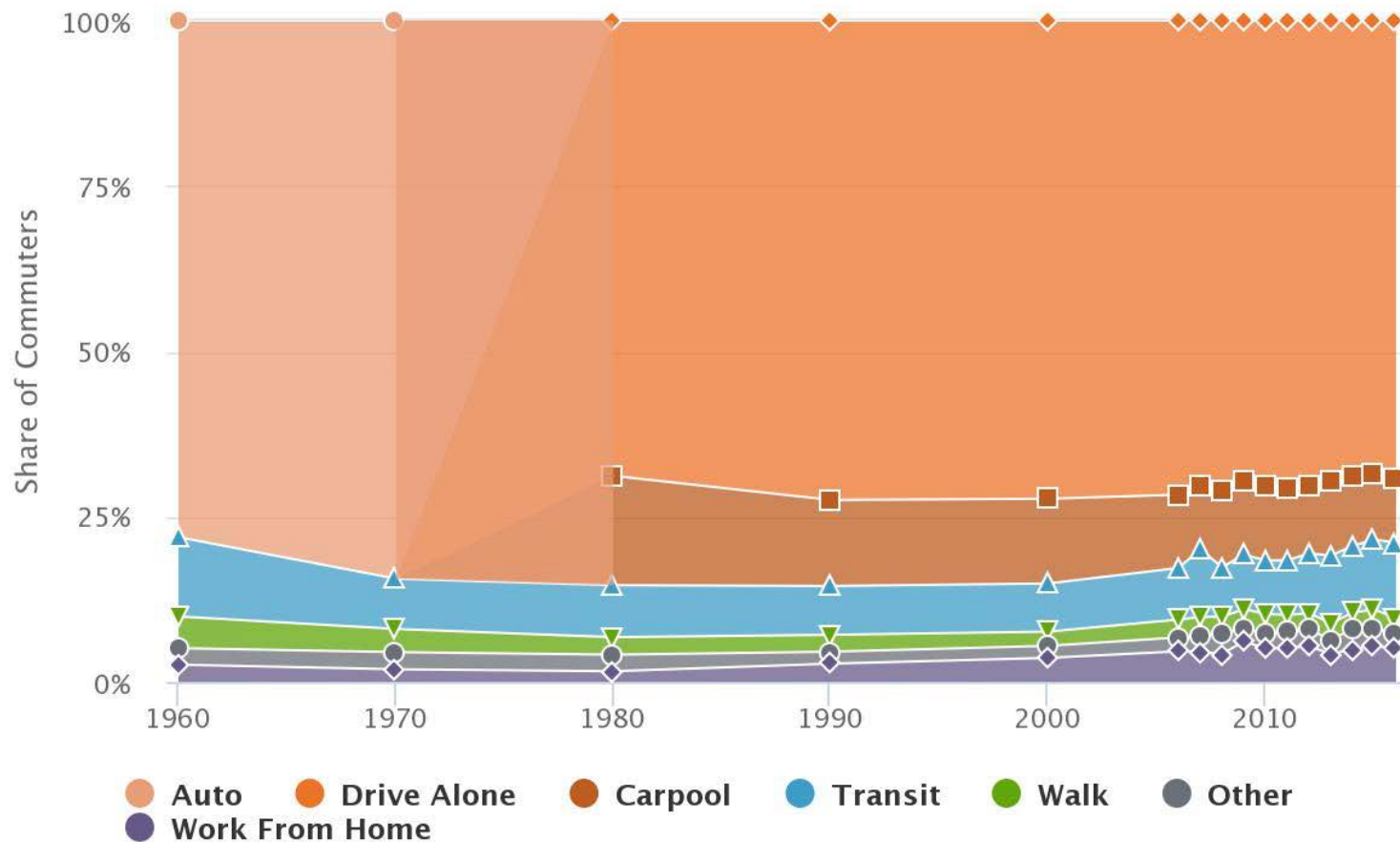
San Mateo County

(Maclek Lulko)

774,155 residents

26.3 min. average drive-alone commute
49.6 min. average transit commute

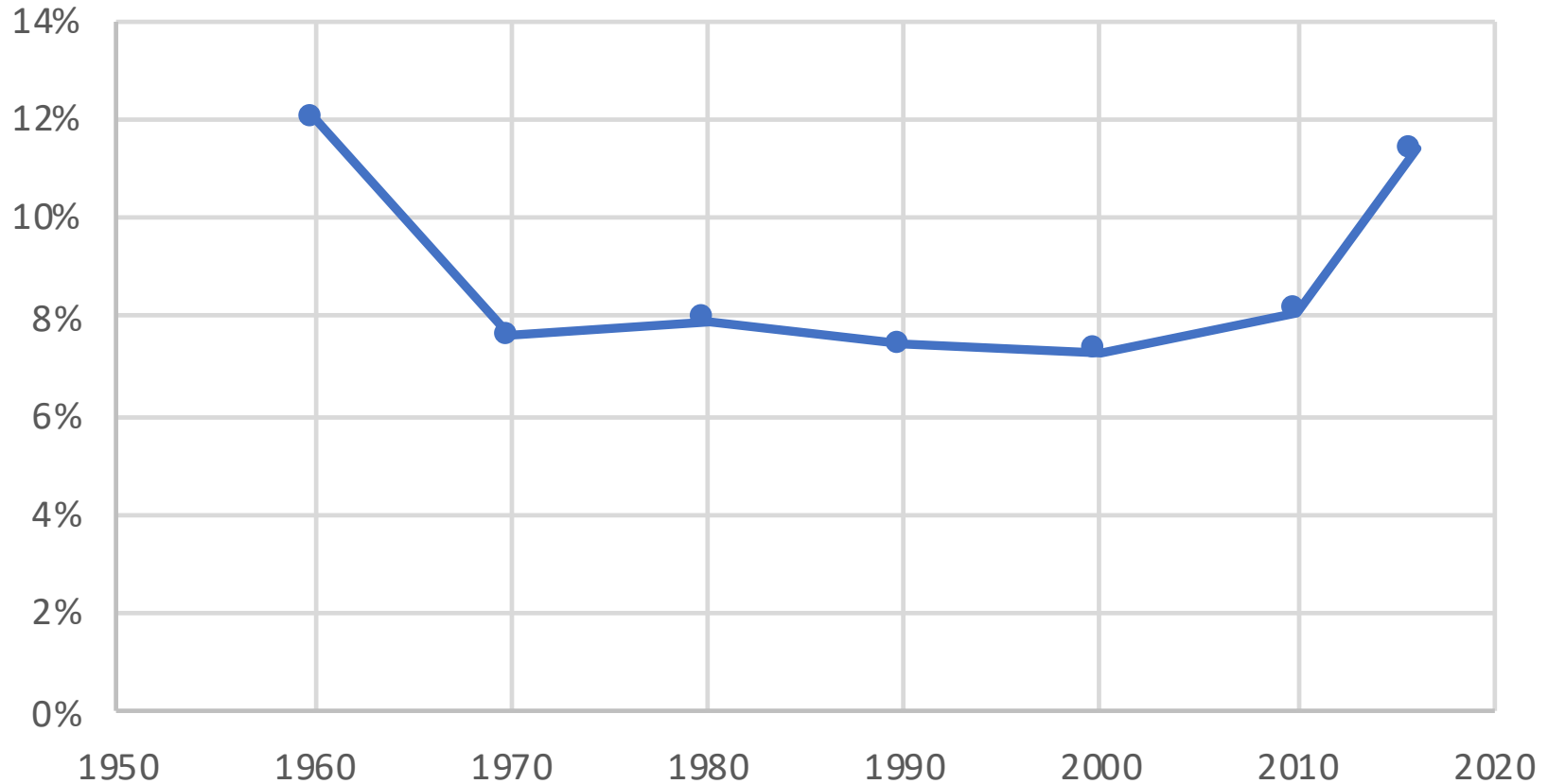
Most people commute by car



Highcharts.com

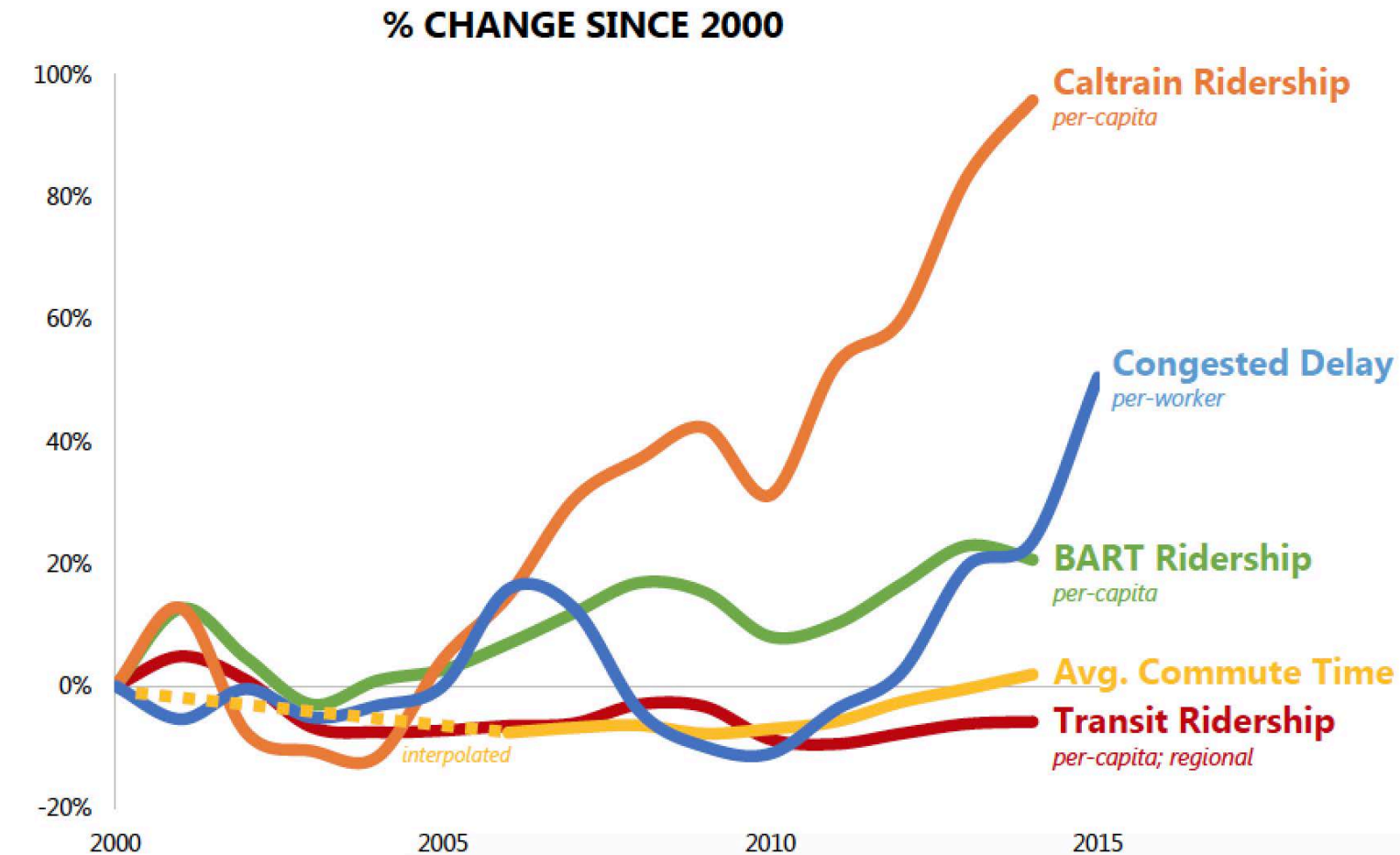
Source: MTC Vital Signs

Some people use transit



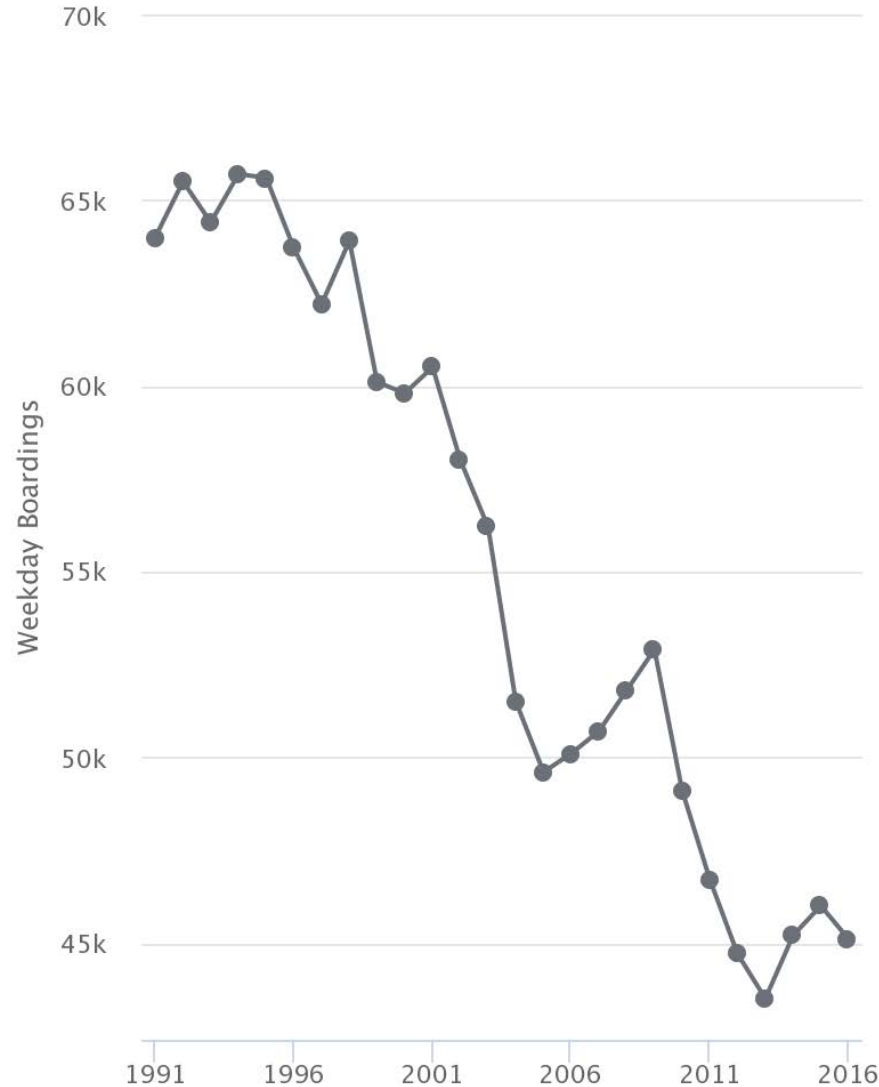
Source: MTC Vital Signs

Across the region, we are using transit less



Source: Vital Signs (MTC 2015; ACS 2014; NTD 2014)

Including SamTrans



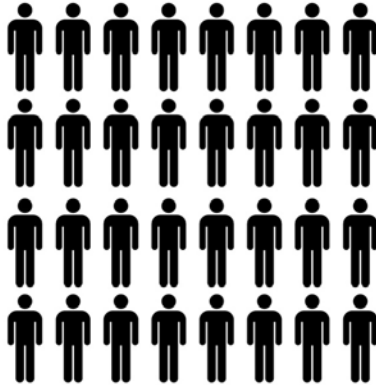
Source: MTC Vital Signs

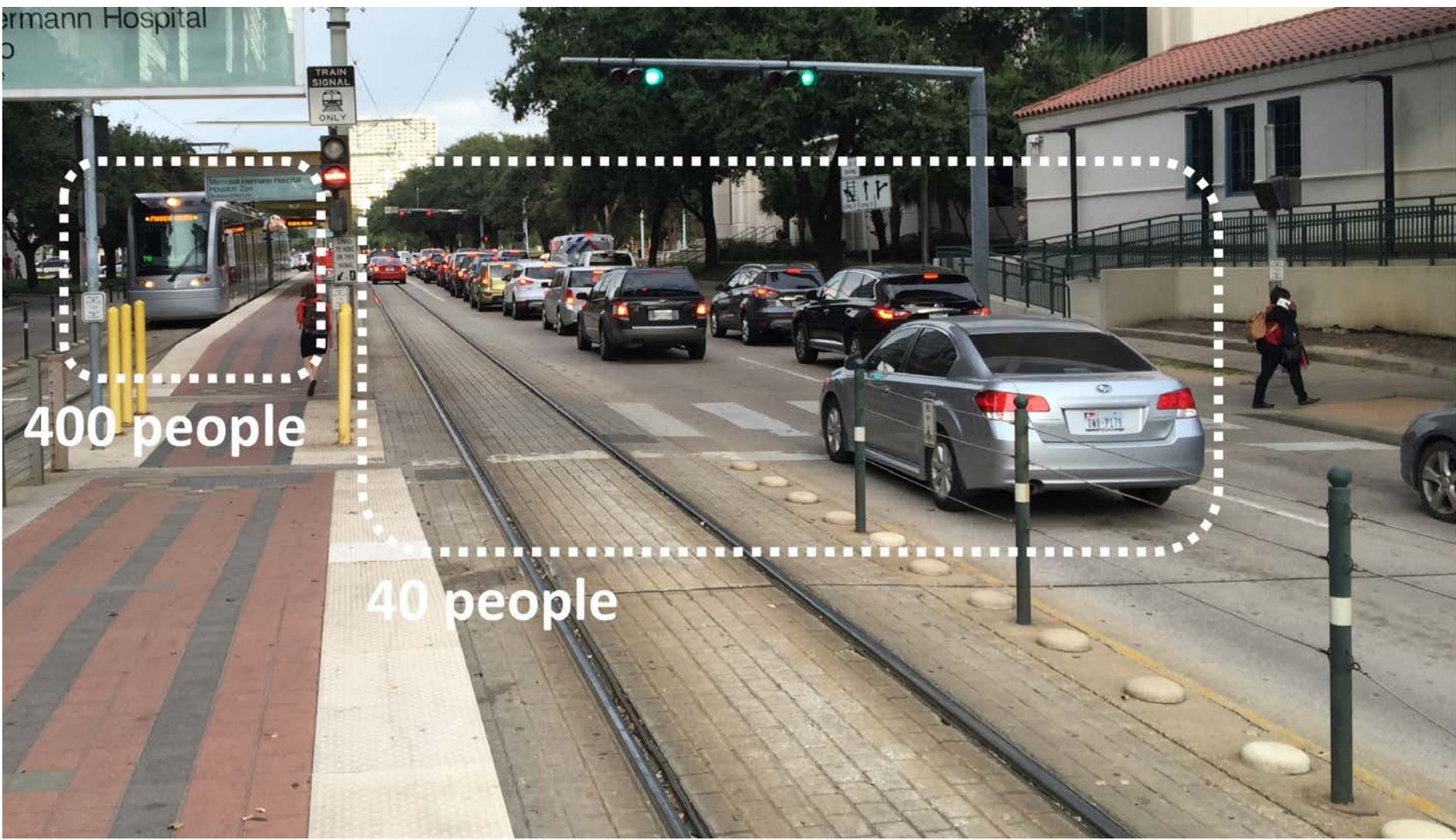
II. Why we care about transit (and the “gentle modes”)

Transit needs to work to make great cities.



The fundamental advantage of transit is efficient use of space.





Gentle modes help make great places



Increasing access, fairness, and quality of life.



III. What makes transit work?

**Good transit is transit that is
useful to people**



We build useful transit by focusing on what matters.

- 1. The quality of the service (not the technology that delivers it)**
- 2. The transit experience**
- 3. Buildings and streets and sidewalks (in addition stations and trains)**
- 4. Putting transit in the right places**

Delivering high-quality transit

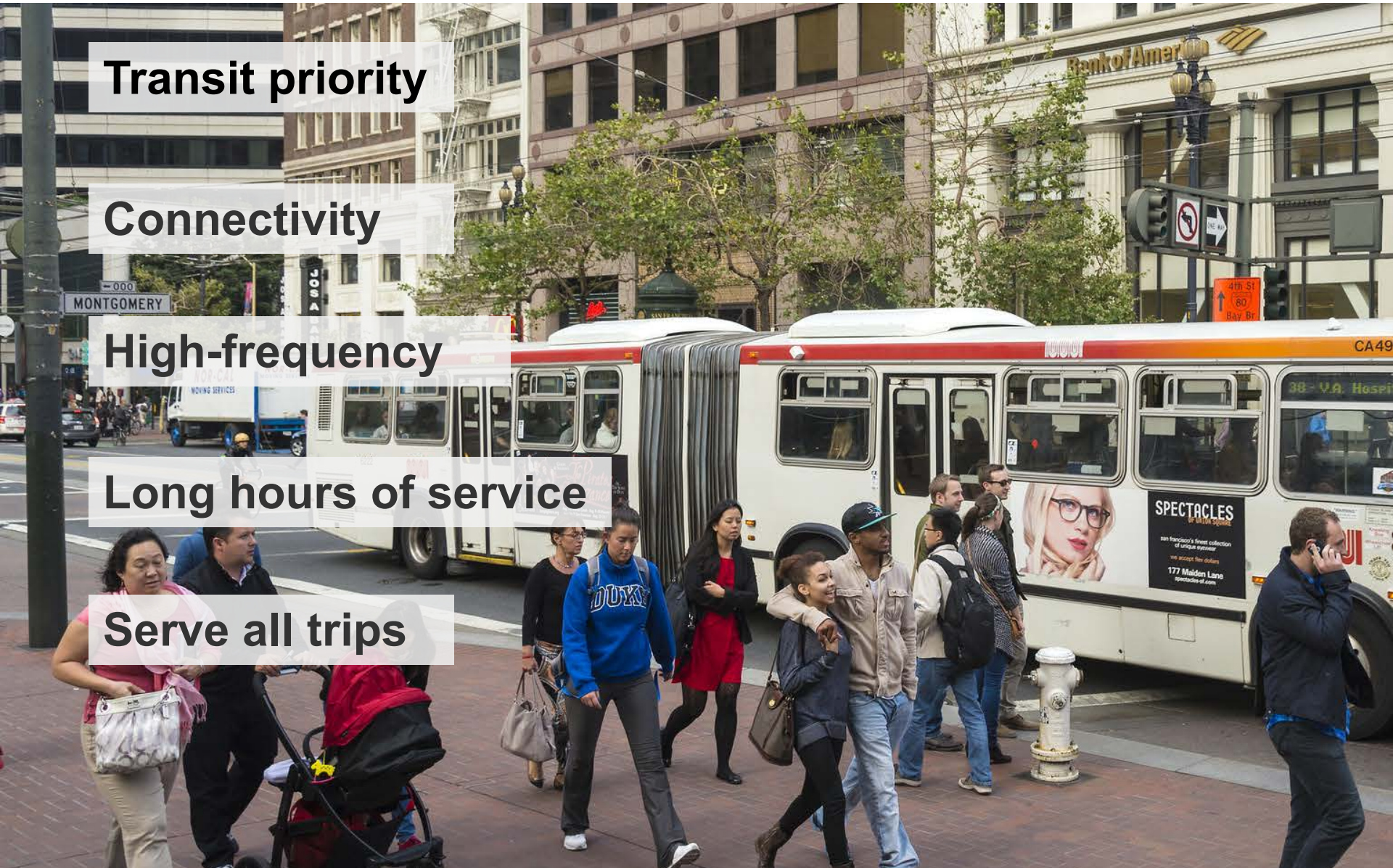
Transit priority

Connectivity

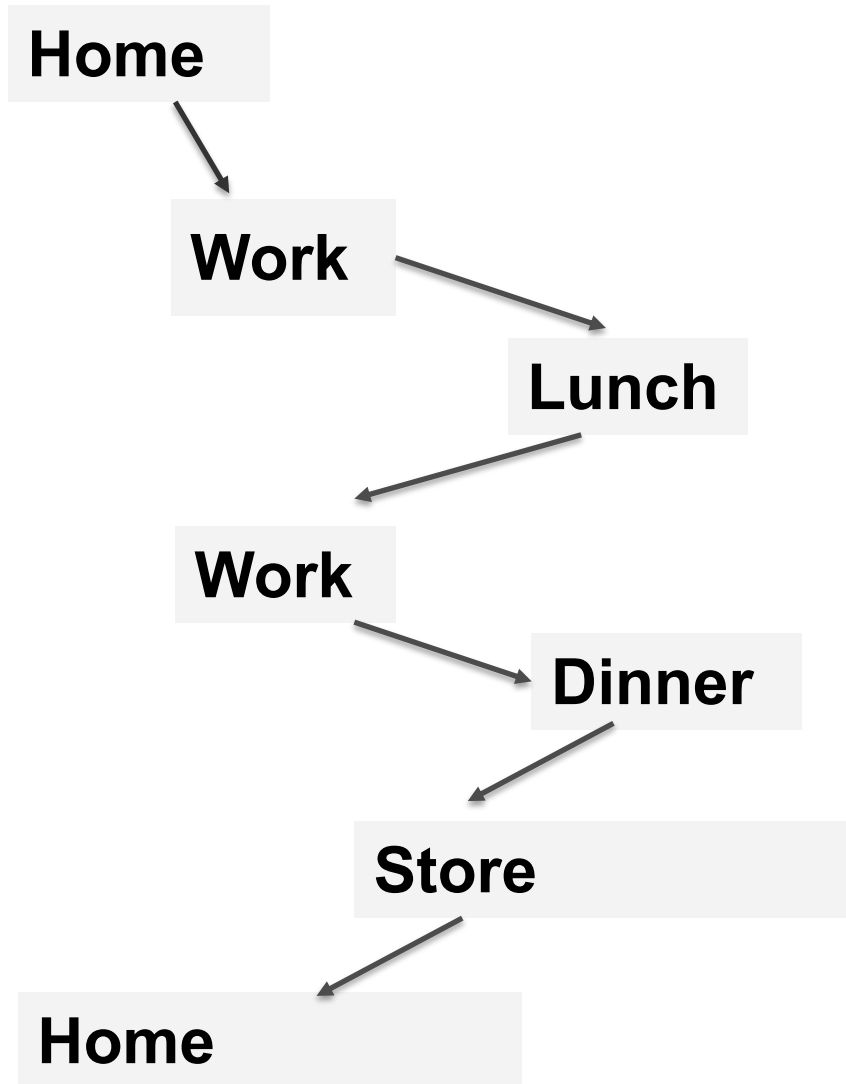
High-frequency

Long hours of service

Serve all trips



Can you live your life on transit?



The transit experience is what drives people to use it

Understanding needs, wants and expectations

Legibility



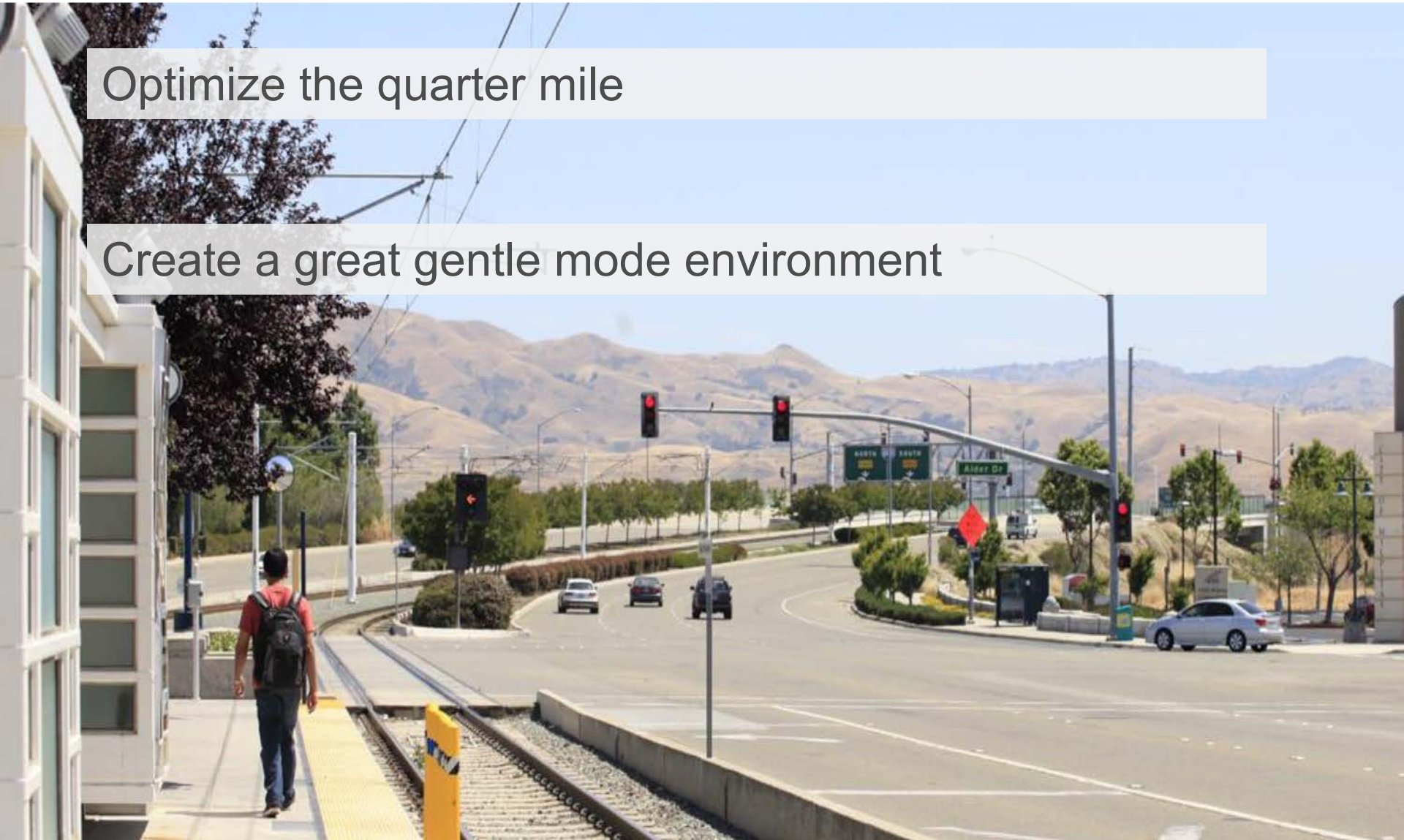
The rider experience on transit is confusing and hard to learn.



Places near transit need to be welcoming and comfortable

Optimize the quarter mile

Create a great gentle mode environment

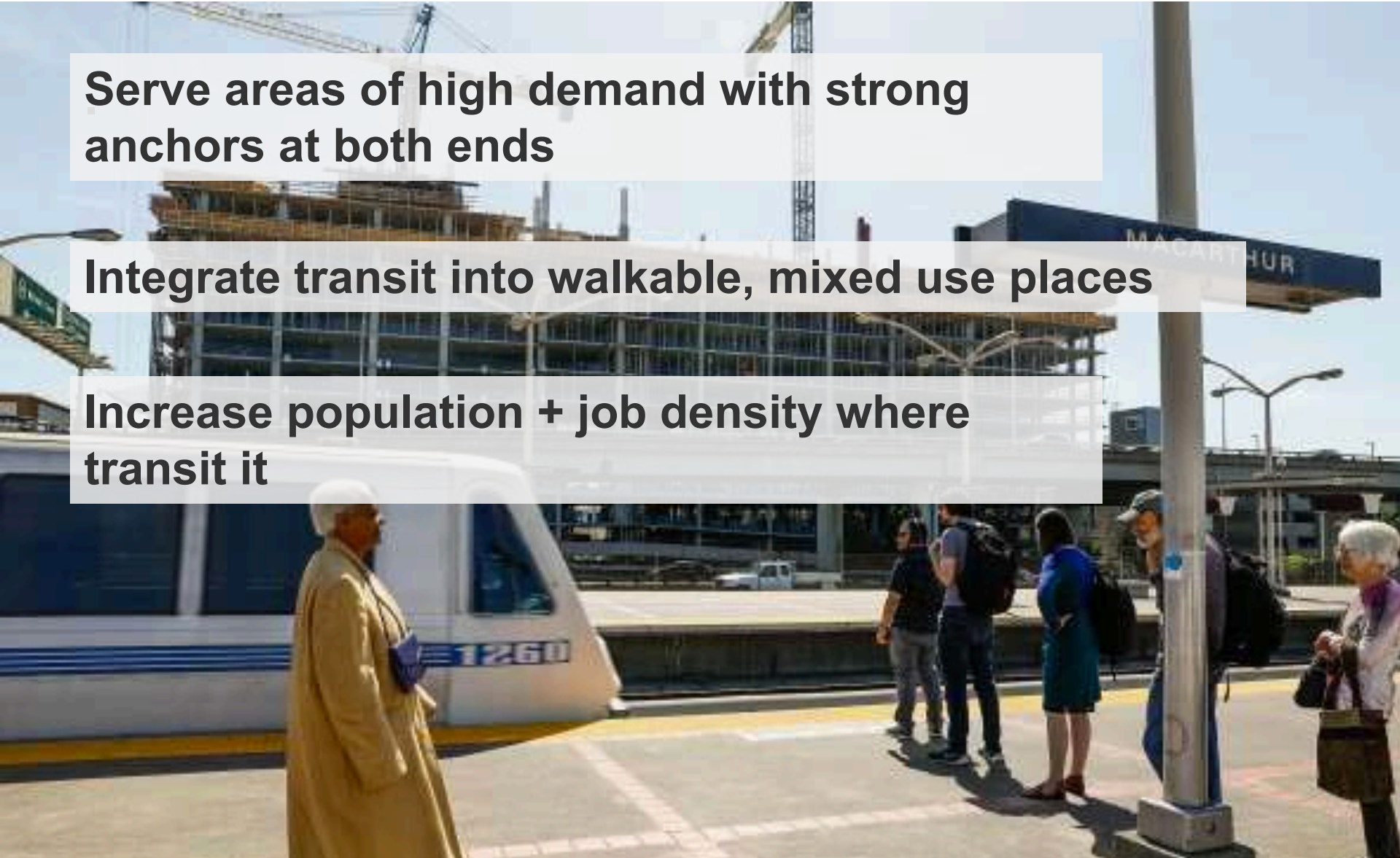


Put transit in the right places

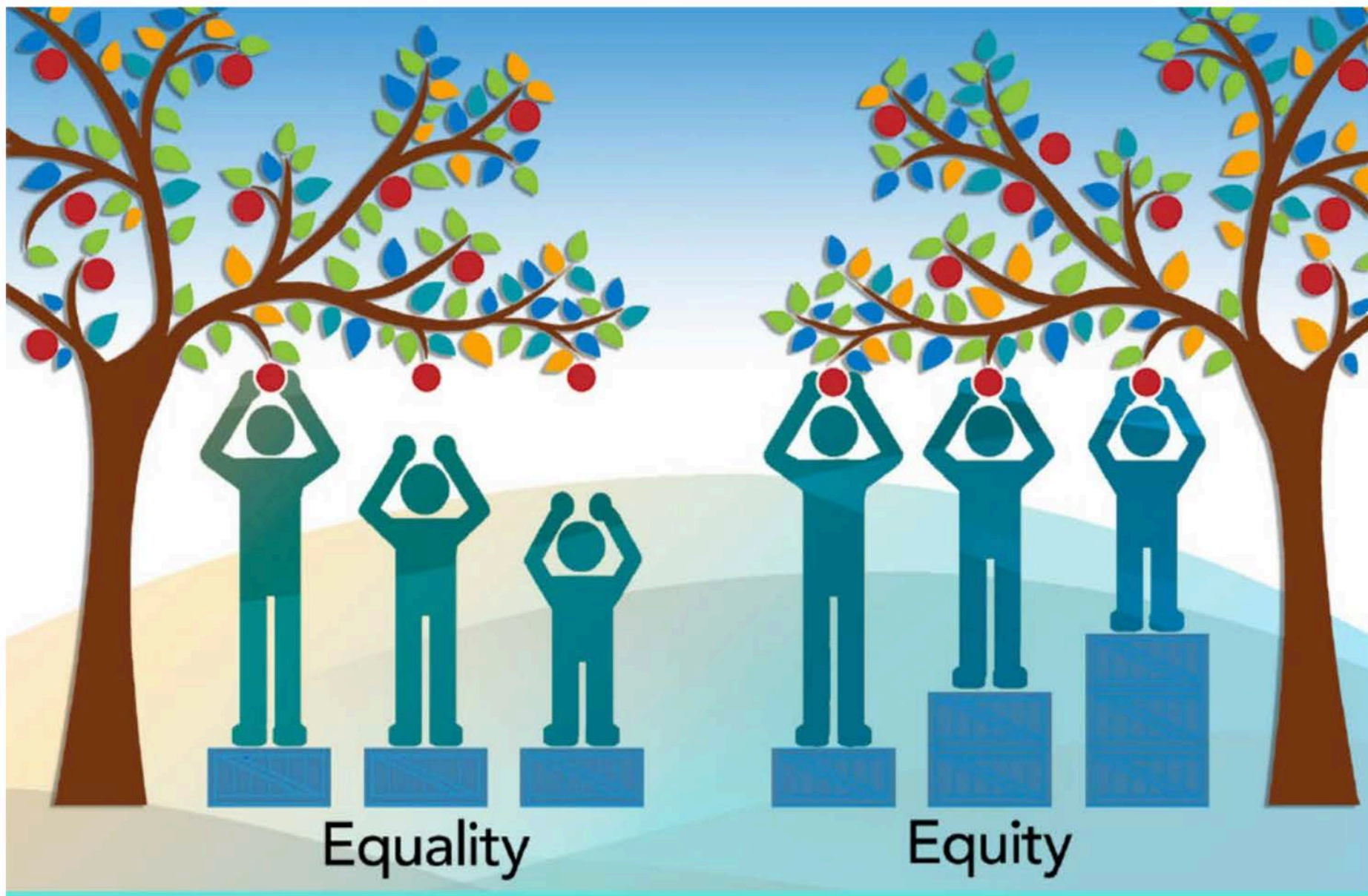
Serve areas of high demand with strong anchors at both ends

Integrate transit into walkable, mixed use places

Increase population + job density where transit it



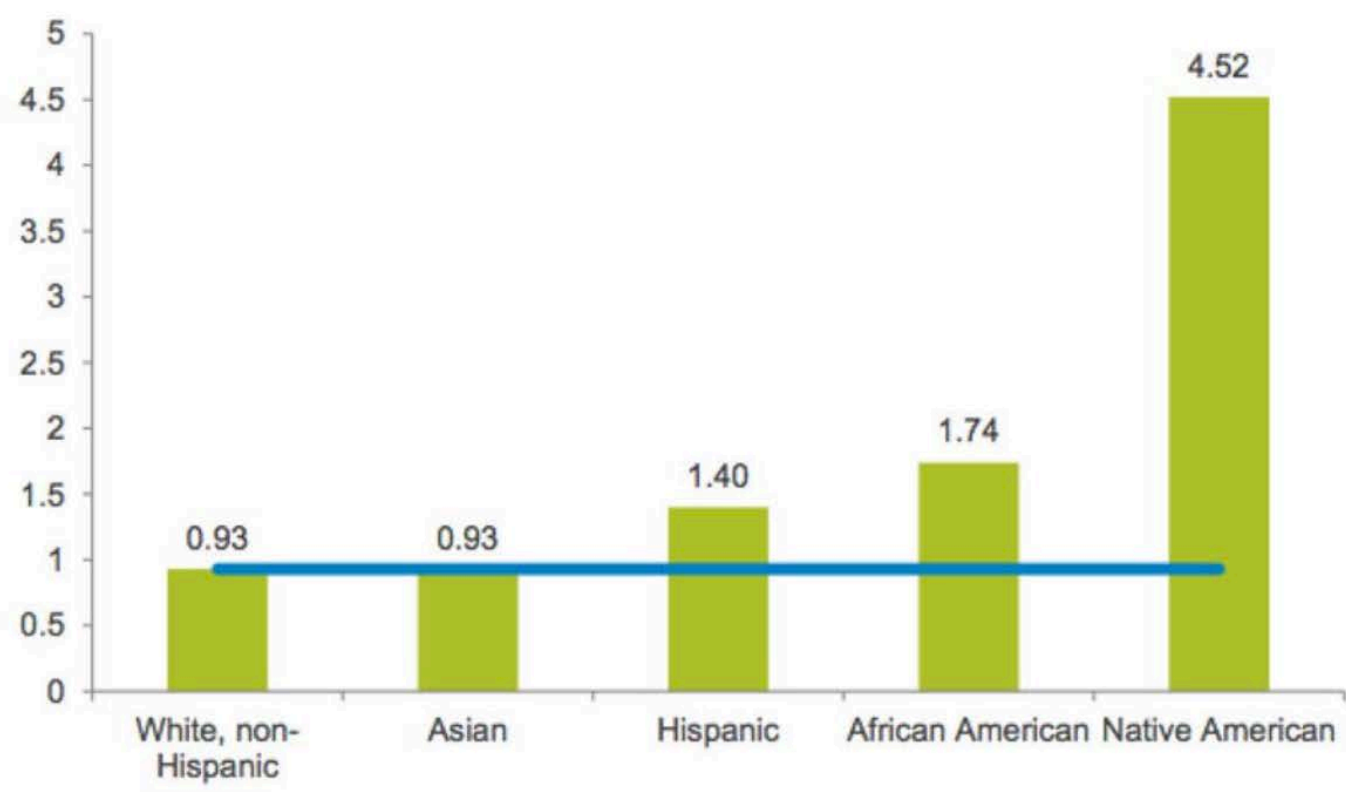
IV. Achieving an equitable transportation system



Equality

Equity

Annual pedestrian fatalities per 100,000 people by race/ethnicity (2005-2014)



(Smart Growth America, 2017)

Advancing equity in transportation

Transportation is critical link to jobs, schools, housing, health care and other needed services.

Many people do not have adequate access to transportation services. The lack of access to transportation translates to the inability to meet basic needs or isolation from opportunities.

Transportation policies, funding and planning decisions determine if our transportation system will serve everyone

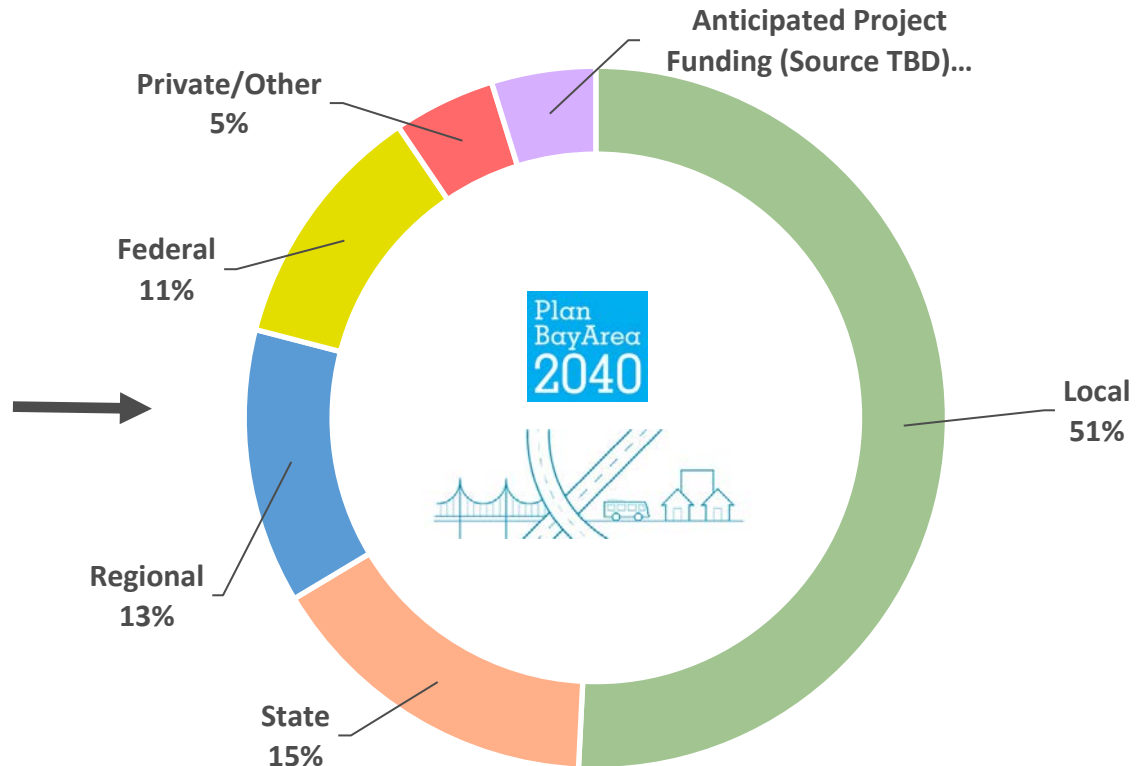
Questions we can ask to advance equity in transportation:

- How accessible and affordable is transportation for low-income residents and communities of concern?
- How can we expand transportation options for low-income residents and communities of concern?
- What transportation investments should we prioritize to improve accessibility and affordability?
- Who is planning our communities?

V. How we fund transportation

Where does the Bay Area Get Its Transportation Funding?

\$309 Billion over the 24 years
From FY 2016/17 to 2039/40

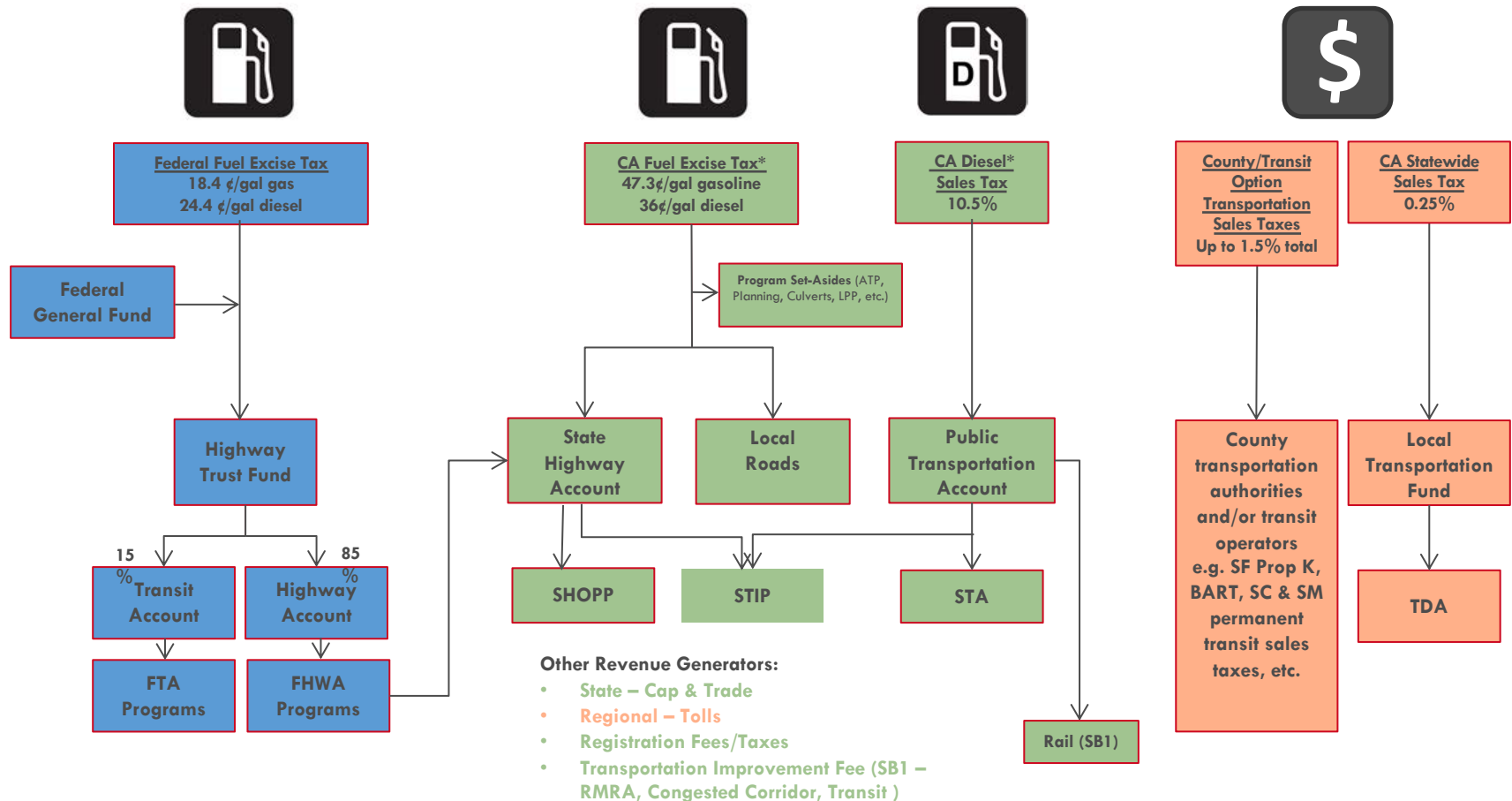


Key Transportation Funding Decision Makers

Federal Funds	Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA)
	Caltrans
	MTC
State Funds	California Legislature
	California Transportation Commission (CTC)
	California Air Resources Board (CARB)
	Caltrans
	California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA)
	MTC
Regional & Local Funds	MTC and Bay Area Toll Authority (BATA)
	Congestion Management Agencies (CMAs)
	Transit Operators
	City/County Governments



Revenue Generation — Simplified



The “Color of Money” and What It Can Fund

	TDA	STA	RM2	OBAG	TCP	ATP	C&T	STIP
Transit Operating	X	X	X		X		X	
Transit Capital	X	X	X	X	X		X	X
Streets & Roads				X				X
Hwys & Regional Operations			X	X				X
Bike/Ped	X			X		X	X	
Local Planning				X				
Climate				X			X	
Low-income, senior, disabled populations	X	X			X	X	X	
Housing				X			X	

Thank you!

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